BLACK DREAMS

SAIKO SCANS

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<PREFACE>

LEGENDS SPEAK OF AN ARTEFACT THAT HAS EXISTED SINCE THE DAWN OF HUMAN HISTORY ITSELF... IT HAS THE POWER TO MAKE ITS USER'S DREAMS COME TRUE.

BUT WHEN THESE DREAMS COME TRUE, BLACK NIGHTMARES WILL ALSO SOON FOLLOW.

BLACK DREAMS

A YOUNG BOY WHO DOESN'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS AND INSTEAD STAYS AT HOME ALL DAY
FANTASISES THAT THERE ARE NUMEROUS LITTLE CITIES WITH MACHINERY AND SWORD-WIELDING WARRIORS HIDDEN AROUND HIS HOUSE.
THAT'S THE PREMISE OF THE STORY I'VE DEVELOPED...
WAIT A MOMENT.
WELL...
I LIKE MACHINES AND LOVE TO READ WUXIA STORIES, ... AND ABOUT OUR CURRENT SITUATION..
..IT'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING ONLY SOMEONE AS INTROVERTED* AS YOU COULD COME UP WITH. WHY DID YOU COMBINE MACHINERY AND WUXIA TOGETHER?
UGH...
ALSO, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT OUR CURRENT SITUATION?
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT,
VILLAINS AREN'T JUST GOING TO SHOW UP ALL OF A SUDDEN, RIGHT?
DON'T WORRY, I DESIGNED THE CITY TO BE A REALLY PEACEFUL PLACE.
WHO'S INK GOT US INTO THIS SITUATION IN THE FIRST PLACE?
SOB
SORRY, THAT WAS ME...

*TL: THE TERM HERE, 自閉, CAN ALSO REFER TO AUTISM. I DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT THE CHARACTERS AND DON'T WISH TO OFFEND ANYONE, SO I'VE USED "INTROVERTED" INSTEAD

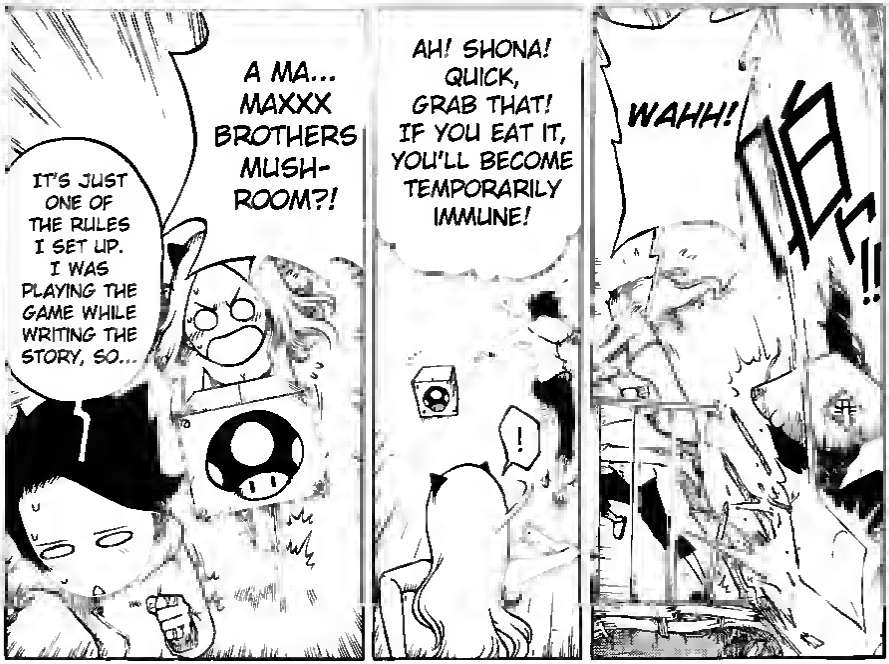
BANG
OH,
IT'S A MEMBER OF THE DEFENDERS THAT HELP PROTECT THE CITY... THE NAIL CRIME AND PUNISHMENT DIVISION.
OOPH!!
HOW IS THIS PEACE-FUL?
I DON'T REMEMBER DESIGNING THEM TO BE THIS BRUTAL!

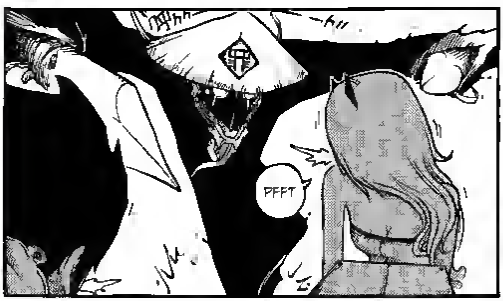
SFX : WHOOSH!!

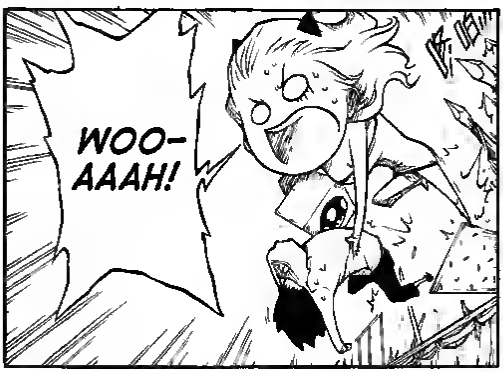
SFX : CRACK!!

SFX : BAM!!

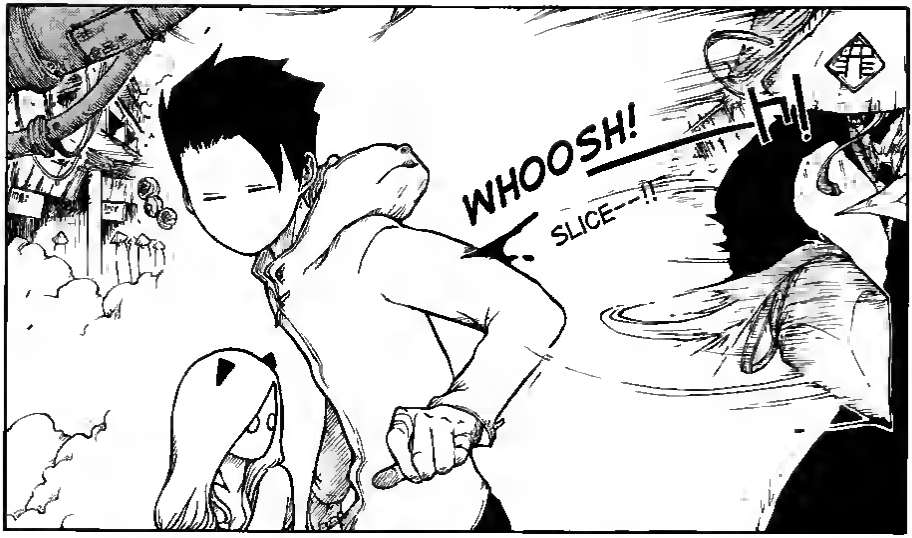
ED: REFERRING TO "SUPER MARIO"

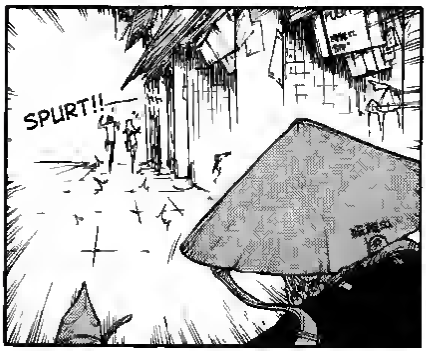

A MA... MAXXX BROTHERS MUSH-ROOM?!
IT'S JUST ONE OF THE RULES I SET UP. I WAS PLAYING THE GAME WHILE WRITING THE STORY, SO...
AH! SHONA! QUICK, GRAB THAT! IF YOU EAT IT, YOU'LL BECOME TEMPORARILY IMMUNE!
!
WAHH!
SFX : CRACK!!

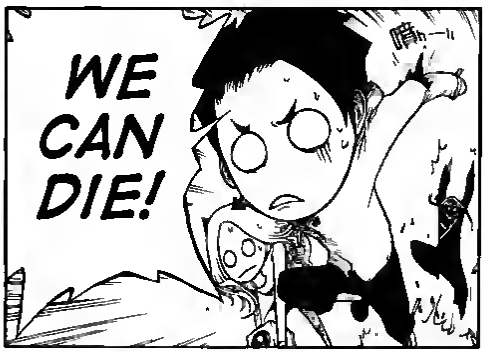




SFX : BAM!
THAT HAD TO BE AT LEAST A 5 OR 6 STORY DROP! WOW!
IT'S THE SAME AS HOW IT WAS, WHEN WE DROPPED DOWN HERE IN THE BEGINNING,
FINDS IT AMUSING
IT'S BECAUSE... OF THE RULES I SET UP...
... I'M ARIGHT!
SMASH!!
!
THEY CAN JUMP SEVERAL METRES, AND AS LONG AS THEY CONCENTRATE, FLYING OFF OF ROOFTOPS ISN'T IMPOSSIBLE.
ONCE SOMEONE ENTERS THIS WORLD, THEY'LL HAVE THE SAME ABILITIES AS THAT OF A WUXIA CHARACTER.
MAYBE...!
WAIT A MOMENT! IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, I DIDN'T SET UP A RULE ABOUT WHETHER PEOPLE CAN DIE OR NOT...


WHOOSH!
SLICE--!!


SPURT!!


WE CAN DIE!

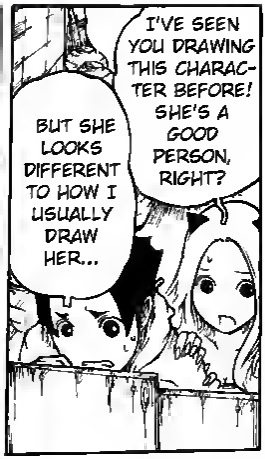
WE CAN'T OUTRUN IT, LET'S JUST HIDE FOR NOW!
OUCH!
SMASH!

HUFF..!!
HUFF..!!
BZZT...
BZZT...
BZZT...
HUFF...
SFX : BZZT...
?
I'VE BEEN LOOKING TO ASK YOU SINCE THE START,
BUT WHAT'S THAT THING ON YOUR ARM?
UMM...
TAP TAP
DAMN IT, IF I HAD A WEAPON THEN I COULD...
WAA... IT'S CALLING OUT TO IT'S COLLEA-GUES FOR HELP...

SFX : SMACK!!
OYE!
OE!!
IT'S A WEAPON I DESIGNED...
YOU EVEN FORGOT ABOUT YOUR OWN WEAPON?
ON
PULL
IF I RECALL CORRECTLY, ALL I NEED TO DO IS TO PRESS THIS BUTTON, AND...
CLICK!
THAT DOESN'T MATTER. FIRST, LET'S TRY THIS OUT...
DID IT TURN ALL THE STORY ELEMENTS STILL IN MY HEAD INTO REALITY AS WELL?
THAT INK...
THAT'S BECAUSE I HADN'T EVEN INTRODUCED IT TO THE STORY YET!
DING-A-LING DING-A-LING DING
DING—
KNOCK
I... I HAD JUST RECENTLY BOUGHT ONE AT THE TIME I WAS DESIGNING THE WEAPON!
IT STILL NEEDS BATTERIES?! WHAT'S THIS? A WII REMOTE?!
PULL
BEEP!
NOT ENOUGH POWER
PLEASE INSERT AAA BATTERIES

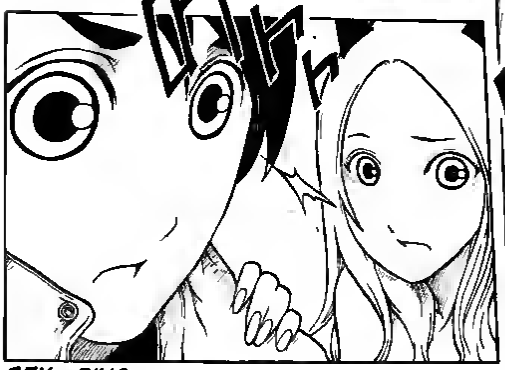
CITY OF THE CURVING DRAGON
MANAGER

BLADE KING THE UNPARALLELED

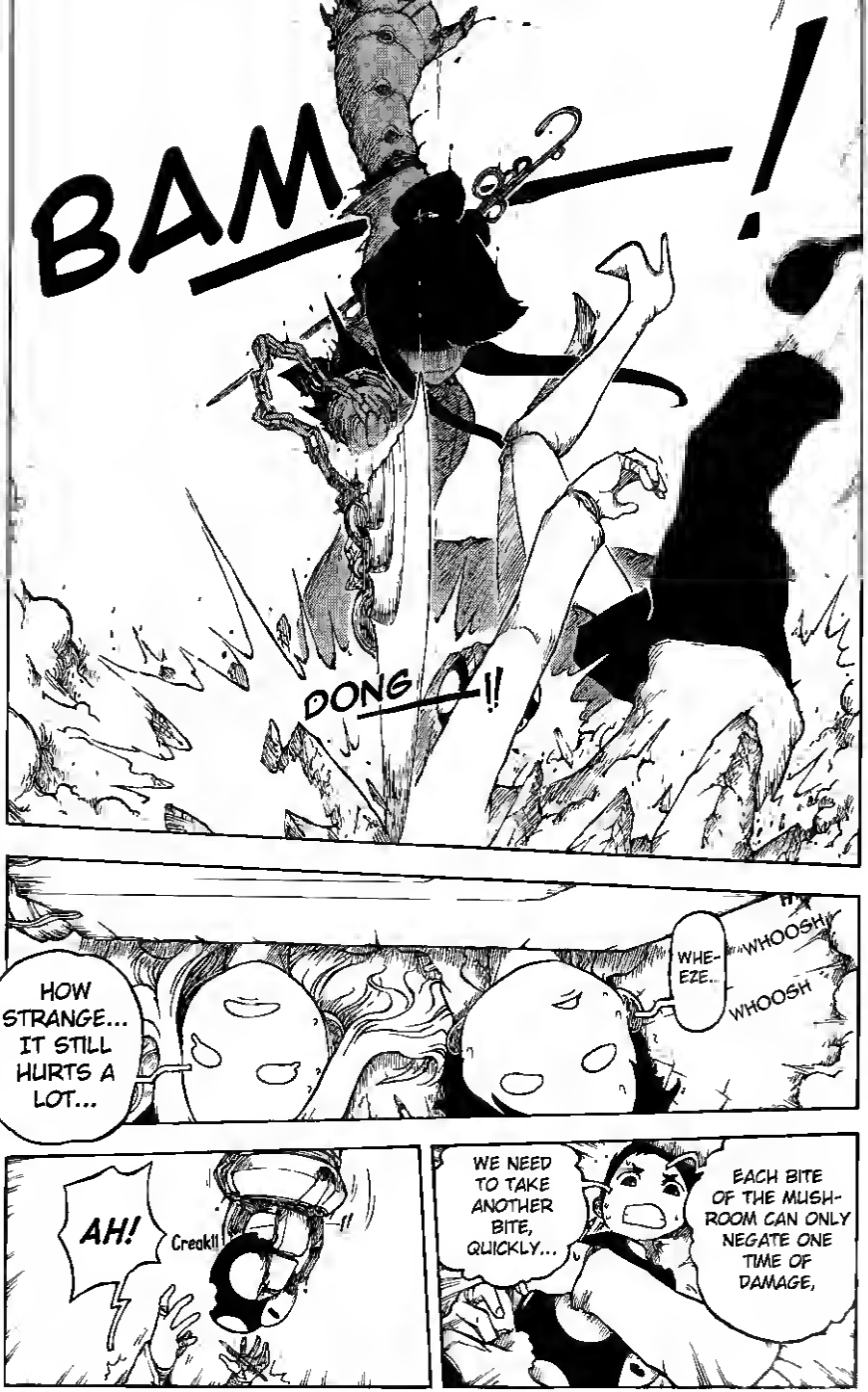

I'VE SEEN YOU DRAWING THIS CHARACTER BEFORE! SHE'S A GOOD PERSON, RIGHT?
BUT SHE LOOKS DIFFERENT TO HOW I USUALLY DRAW HER...

WAHH... WHY DID WE HAVE TO RUN INTO HER... IF WE GET CAUGHT, WE'RE DEFINITELY GOING TO DIE!
LET'S MAKE A RUN FOR IT, WHILE SHE'S STILL FAR AWAY FROM US...

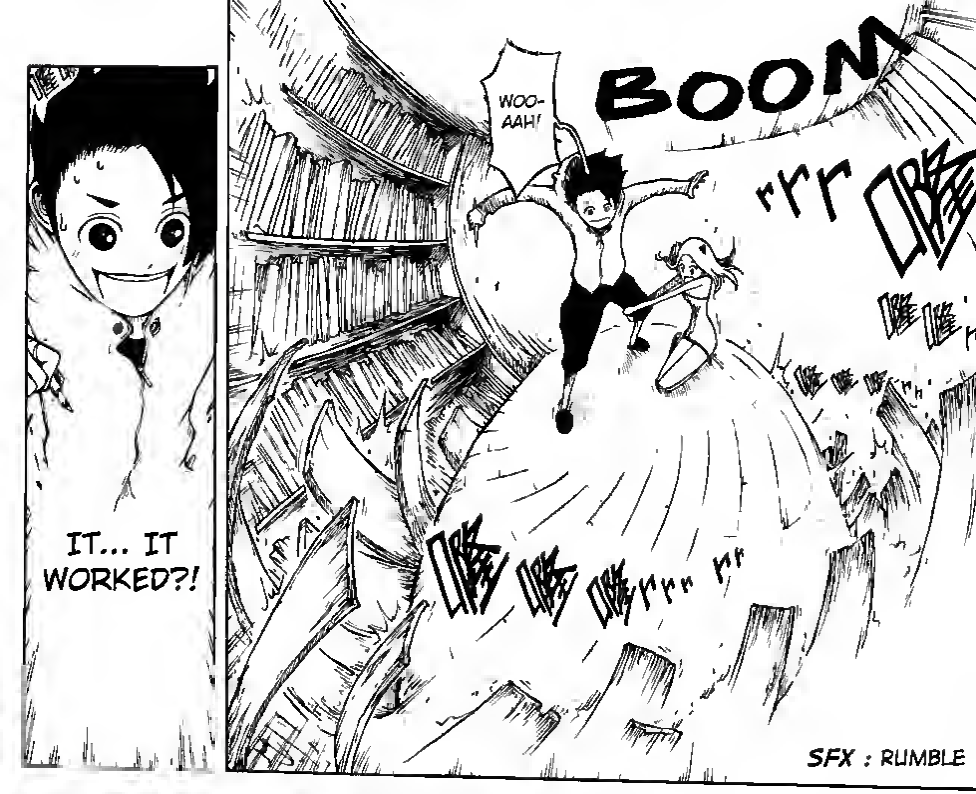
WHOO—SH
SFX : CLANG

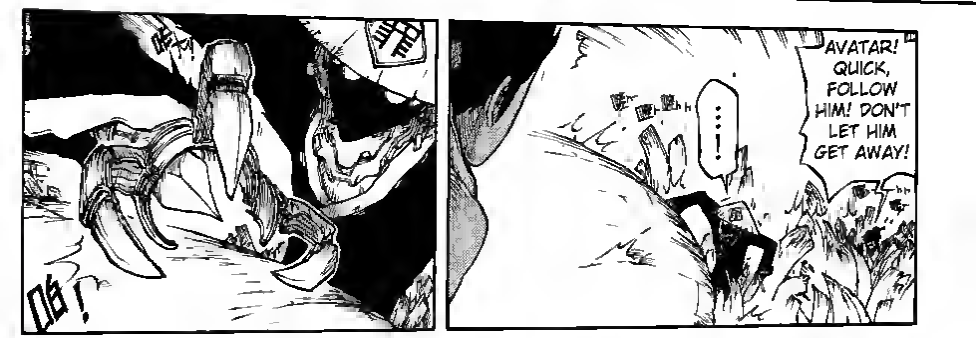

SFX : DING

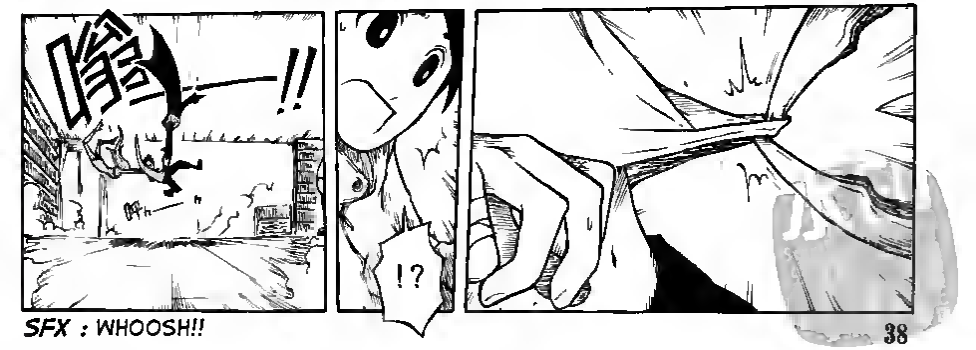
THE MUSH-ROOM!
QUICK, EAT THE MUSH-ROOM!
SFX : CHOMP!!

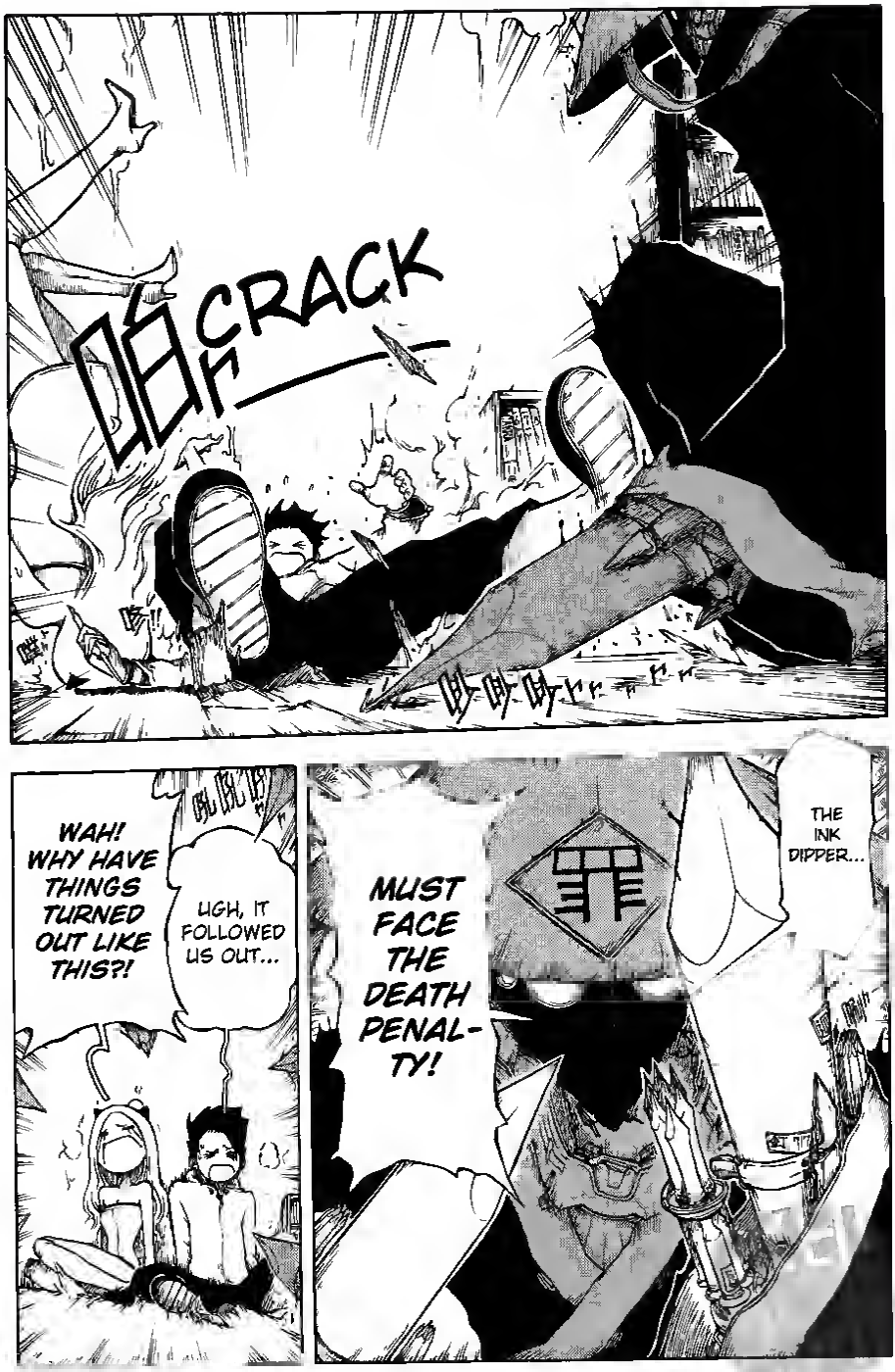

BAM!
DONG!!
WHEEZE..
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
HOW STRANGE... IT STILL HURTS A LOT...
AH!
Creak!!
WE NEED TO TAKE ANOTHER BITE, QUICKLY...
EACH BITE OF THE MUSHROOM CAN ONLY NEGATE ONE TIME OF DAMAGE,

SFX : POP!!
DAMN IT! ONLY IF WE COULD GET BACK INTO THE REAL WORLD...
MUHAHA! ACCEPT YOUR FATE!
I WONDER IF...!
THE REASON WE ENTERED THIS WORLD IN THE FIRST PLACE WAS BECAUSE I DROPPED MY PEN ONTO THE GROUND,
THAT'S RIGHT!
...THE REAL WORLD
!
TCH!
SHONA! QUICK, GRAB ONTO ME!
SEEING AS IT WAS THE WAY WE GOT HERE, IT SHOULD ALLOW US TO GO BACK TOO! LET'S GAMBLE ON IT!
SFX: BOOM!!


IT... IT WORKED?!
WOO-AAH!
BOOM
SFX : RUMBLE


AVATAR! QUICK, FOLLOW HIM! DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!
!?


!!
!?
SFX : WHOOSH!!

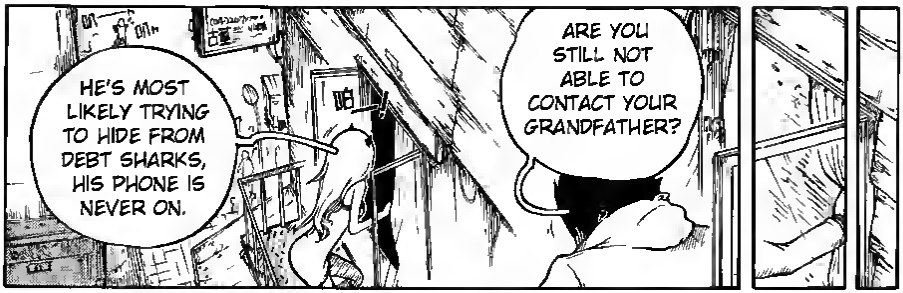

CRACK
THE INK DIPPER...
MUST FACE THE DEATH PENALTY!
UGH, IT FOLLOWED US OUT...
WAH! WHY HAVE THINGS TURNED OUT LIKE THIS?!

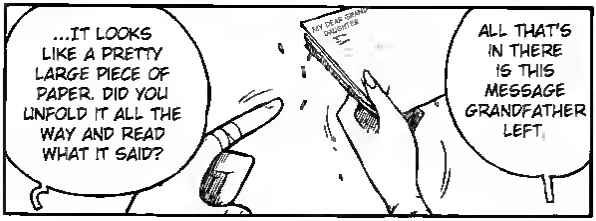
SFX : RUMBLE
DIE!
WAH-HH!
WAH!
A BATTERY!
+SUMY
DRY BATTERY AA R6 SUM3 1.5V
!
!

PLEASE, JUST WORK!
PLEASE!
SFX : WOAH!
PULL
CLICK!
BEEP!
WOOO HO!
100% FULL POWER
THE BUT-TON..
PRESS THE BUTTON!
ON
RUUMMBLE!!
WOA-AAH!

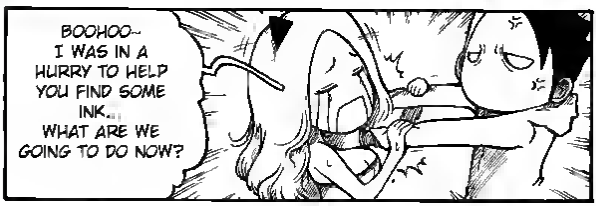
SFX: WHOOSH
WHITE OUT CHOP
RANDOMLY SHOUTED OUT

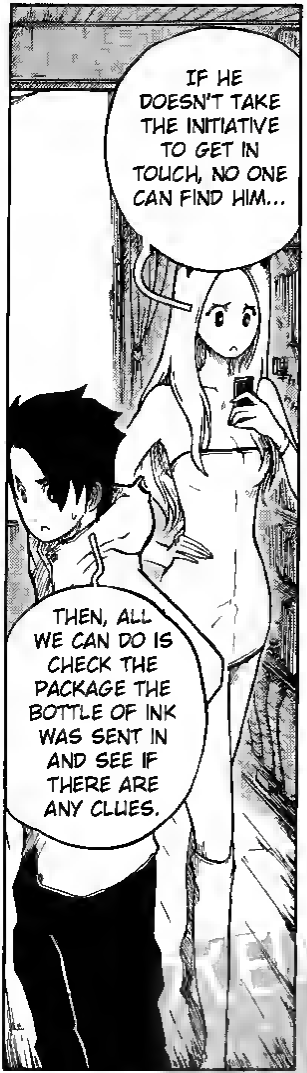
...IT'S THE MANHUA MANUSCRIPT THAT THE MONSTER HAD SWALLOWED...
SHONA... I WANT TO FIND YOUR GRANDFATHER AND HAVE A PROPER TALK WITH HIM...
SO DO I...


HE'S MOST LIKELY TRYING TO HIDE FROM DEBT SHARKS, HIS PHONE IS NEVER ON.
ARE YOU STILL NOT ABLE TO CONTACT YOUR GRANDFATHER?

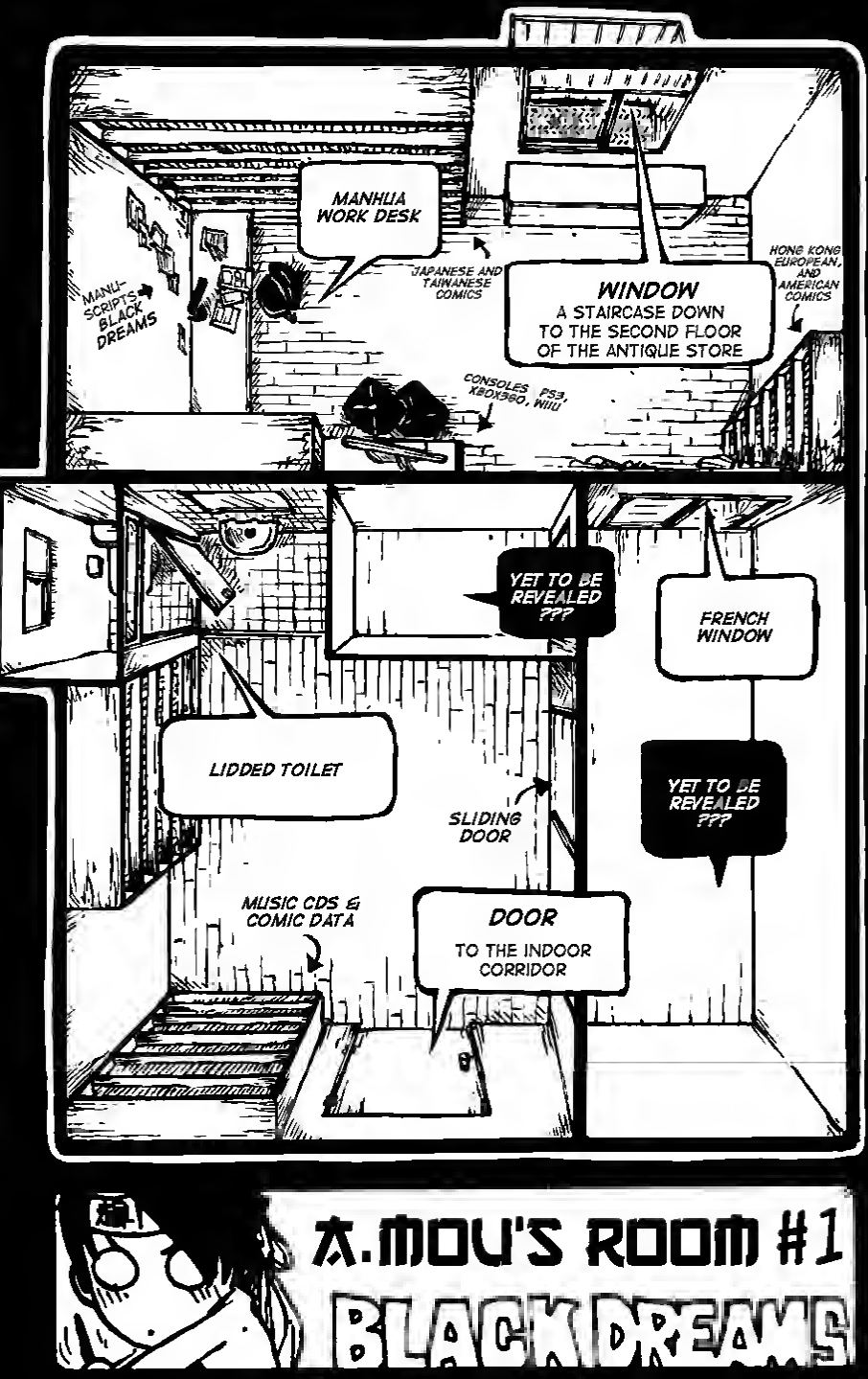

...IT LOOKS LIKE A PRETTY LARGE PIECE OF PAPER. DID YOU UNFOLD IT ALL THE WAY AND READ WHAT IT SAID?
ALL THAT'S IN THERE IS THIS MESSAGE GRANDFATHER LEFT.

I'll write this larger, just in case you miss it...
Whatever you do, don't open the bottle of ink! Your life will be in danger!!!
...


BOOHOO~ I WAS IN A HURRY TO HELP YOU FIND SOME INK... WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO NOW?


IF HE DOESN'T TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO GET IN TOUCH, NO ONE CAN FIND HIM...
THEN, ALL WE CAN DO IS CHECK THE PACKAGE THE BOTTLE OF INK WAS SENT IN AND SEE IF THERE ARE ANY CLUES.

I WANT TO GO THERE AGAIN AND FIND ALL MY STOLEN MANUSCRIPTS!
SEEING AS THIS PEN ALLOWS ME TO FREELY ENTER THAT WORLD...
I HAVE A MORE IMPORTANT MATTER THAT I MUST ATTEND TO RIGHT NOW.
THE ONLY THING WE CAN DO IS WAIT FOR YOUR GRANDFATHER TO SHOW UP AND ASK HIM ABOUT ALL THIS
NO MATTER WHAT, I HAVE TO DO MY BEST AND SEE IF I CAN MAKE IT...
BUT THIS COMPETITION IS LIKELY GOING TO BE THE LAST TIME I HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DRAW MANHUA,
I KNOW IT'S VERY DANGER-OUS...
ARE YOU CRAZY? WE ALMOST LOST OUR LIVES JUST NOW!
I HAVE TO TAKE BACK MY MANU-SCRIPTS!


MANHUA WORK DESK
MANU-SCRIPTS: BLACK DREAMS
JAPANESE AND TAIWANESE COMICS
WINDOW
A STAIRCASE DOWN TO THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE ANTIQUE STORE
HONG KONG, EUROPEAN, AND AMERICAN COMICS
CONSOLES: PS3, XBOX360, WiiU
YET TO BE REVEALED ???
FRENCH WINDOW
LIDDED TOILET
SLIDING DOOR
YET TO BE REVEALED ???
MUSIC CDS & COMIC DATA
DOOR
TO THE INDOOR CORRIDOR
A.MOU'S ROOM #1
BLACK DREAMS